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pression of duelling; for the relief of the poor; on mendicancy; on the education of women; on commerce and colonization, etc. Some of these memoirs are still unpublished and certainly ought to see the light. St. Pierre had a powerful influence upon Aubert de Tourny, Turgot's predecessor in the Limousin, and himself as enlightened an intendant as Turgot in Guyenne, but one whose brilliance has been effaced in the greater glory of the latter.

The second volume is a new edition of the Abbé de St. Pierre's *Annales Politiques*, which cover those eventful years of France between 1658 and 1740, based upon a new collation of all the existing manuscripts and the three printed editions. The basis is the Caen manuscript, all variants being given in the notes. The record begins with the year of the writer's birth, although the actual composition dates from 1694 to 1696. Though modestly denominated annals, the work is really a philosophical and critical as well as a narrative account, for the author sensitively appreciated the "new history" of his times—the transition from the classicism of the age of Louis XIV. to the philosophical and critical thought of the eighteenth century. St. Pierre lacked the constructive mind of Montesquieu and his utopianism excited the scorn of Voltaire; he lived on a high plane of thought and endeavor below the grade of genius. Like so many writers of the time he was strongly influenced by Plutarch and was prone to moralize, but his moralizing is not flat nor tenuous and his comments are often keen and direct, like St. Simon bled of his Tacitean power. Probably no single source pertaining to the last half of the reign of Louis XIV. and the early years of Louis XV. will give a reader a better idea of men and events or more fully enable him to appreciate the unity of the period. The work is a mine of political, military, social, economic, and literary information, as readable as any save the greatest memoirs of the time, and freer than all from chit-chat and gossip. The temptation to quote from clever or critical judgments, apt characterizations, pithy comment, is strong, but the reviewer is mindful of the statute of limitations governing space and forbears. It is a pity there is no index to the book.

*Le Directoire et la Paix de l'Europe: des Traités de Bâle à la Deuxième Coalition, 1795-1799.* Par RAYMOND GUYOT, Docteur ès Lettres. (Paris: Félix Alcan. 1911. Pp. 956.)

THROUGHOUT the existence of the Directory the possibilities of war and peace for France turned on her relations with Austria and England. The accepted version of the diplomatic history of the period is the account by Sorel. M. Guyot, relying on more thorough studies in the archives and the use of the *Dropmore* (Grenville) *Papers* and other documents, has ventured, in his doctoral dissertation, to attack the supposedly impregnable positions of Sorel and has carried them by storm, as is shown by the hearty approval of his work expressed by eminent historians of the French Revolution. The volume shows commendable attention

to the details which make an historical work first-class, and exhibits on every page proof of the extensive and diligent researches which have enabled the author to rewrite the history of a much-tangled subject so convincingly. Rarely does a doctoral dissertation, even in France, furnish such a notable contribution to historical knowledge.

After sketching the organization of the Directory and the status of foreign affairs after the treaties of Basel, he enters upon a study of the foreign policy of the Directory to determine whether the Directory wished to make peace, upon what terms, and with what probability of success. The failure of the first tentative negotiations was followed by the campaign of 1796. It is obvious that the Directors intended that the veterans Jourdan and Moreau should conduct the main campaign in southern Germany, while the novice Bonaparte with an inferior force should make a diversion in northern Italy. That their diplomatic plans accorded with their military strategy is fully demonstrated by M. Guyot in his highly important sixth chapter, though the phrase, "the Grand Design of the Directory", seems to dignify unduly anything born of that sordid régime. In essence the Grand Design was the old monarchical policy of the natural frontiers, specifically worked out to secure for France peace, with the possession of the left bank of the Rhine. The alliance with Spain, the negotiations with the pope for a religious settlement, the mission of General Clarke to discuss terms with Austria, and the tentative negotiations of Wickham at Basel and of Malmesbury at Paris show the workings of this policy during 1796.

The great offset to these cumulative tendencies toward peace was the commander of the Army of Italy who "first saw his star at Lodi". While M. Guyot shows that the armistice of Cherasco was not an act of insubordination, Bonaparte's repeated successes in the campaign of 1796 kindled his imagination and determined him to play his own hand. After the capture of Mantua, he rid himself of Clarke, pushed his army through the mountains toward Vienna, and compelled Austria to sign the preliminaries of Leoben in direct defiance of his instructions and of the Grand Design. Then he knew how to put such pressure upon the Directors that the treaty was confirmed in spite of the opposition of Reubell and Delacroix, the exponents of the Grand Design. The Little Corsican by his creation of the Cisalpine Republic revived the revolutionary propaganda, appealed to the Italian patriots, and at the same time secured himself a position of international importance. The later intervention in Switzerland was an almost necessary sequel for strategical reasons. Austria was not slow to discern the change of policy and to delay negotiations by attempts to develop the opposition between the Directors and their general. The coup d'état of Fructidor dispelled all hopes to that end, and the treaty of Campo Formio soon carried the Bonapartist schemes a step further. Meanwhile, negotiations with England had been in progress at Lille with strong probabilities of success, for M. Guyot has shown conclusively that Pitt sincerely desired

peace even on the basis of the French control of the Low Countries. Fructidor, by a strange combination of circumstances, ruined the chances of peace with England, in spite of the efforts of Talleyrand, whose machinations are fully set forth. The Directors now desired to push the war against England vigorously and summoned Bonaparte to conduct a great attack upon the British coasts. He and Talleyrand secured the adoption of their counter-proposal of the expedition to Egypt. Meanwhile, there were in progress the negotiations at Rastatt and those of Sieyès in Berlin; Bernadotte had been on his fruitless mission to Vienna; but most serious of all, Bonapartist adherents, Italian patriots, ambitious generals, and greedy grafters, had rapidly forwarded the republican propaganda in Italy by their activities in Rome, Naples, and elsewhere. The Directors successfully checked the propaganda by preventing the amalgamation of the new republics and by the recall of Championnet. These and other acts served to postpone war with a second coalition, but the destruction of the French fleet in Aboukir Bay revealed the possibility of humbling France and so brought to being the Second Coalition. The retirement of Reubell from the Directory marked the disappearance of the policy of the natural frontiers. The revolutionary propaganda gave place to the Napoleonic imperialism.

GEORGE MATTHEW DUTCHER.

*La Commune du Dix Août 1792: Étude sur l'Histoire de Paris du 20 Juin au 2 Décembre 1792.* Par F. BRAESCH, Professeur Agrégé d'Histoire, Docteur ès Lettres. (Paris: Hachette et Cie. 1911. Pp. xviii, 1236.)

IN this work M. Braesch takes the term "Commune" in its broadest sense covering all the organs through which the life of Paris expressed itself, and especially the sectional assemblies, in the action of which he finds the real explanation of municipal policy, and, in many cases, of political tendencies still more general. His narrative opens with the affair of June 20—the movement which then started leading directly to the formation of the Revolutionary Commune on the night of August 9—and closes with the dissolution of that body, December 2. The volume is the first part of a political history of the Commune during the Terror, which, like Mortimer-Ternaux, though with very different sympathies, M. Braesch thinks became an instrument of government, August 10. The treatment is not exclusively political, for the present volume contains chapters on the economic and religious situation.

M. Braesch believes that in order to set forth adequately the life of Paris in such a momentous period he must descend "*résolument dans l'inextricable fouillis des faits*". This he has done, as the size of the volume—1176 closely printed pages—indicates. So great is the interest of the facts, many of them hitherto unnoted, which make up his narrative, that no one will wish the treatment briefer. The volume is also long because it includes many detailed bibliographical notes and lists,